

Amendments to the Specification:

1. At page 3 of the specification, please replace the paragraph beginning "Advantageous embodiments . . ." with the following:

Advantageous embodiments of the invention are characterized by the ~~sub-claims~~
claims appended hereto.

2. At page 4 of the specification, please replace the paragraph beginning "The tube-like hump . . ." with the following:

The tube-like hump 4 extends, as shown in Fig. 2, up to the connecting bar 15, ~~turning~~
and turns with the two legs 14 of the hoof pad 12 in the area of their ends 13.

Moreover, this hump 4 is provided at the front end 17 of the hoof pad 12 in the area of the joining point of the two legs with an interruption ~~16~~ 22, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, so as to form separated portions 23. Beyond the connecting bar 15 and in the direction of the ends 13 of the legs, however, the plastic plate 2 of the pad lining, which is fixed together with the hoof pad 12 on the hoof in a manner known per se, is free of any hump 4. By this defined configuration of the hump 4 the requested strong seat of the connecting bar 15 within the recesses 16 is gained and moreover it is avoided that the ends of the hump 4 will be too strongly deformed if the hoof steps onto the ground.

3. At page 5 of the specification, please replace the paragraph beginning "The hollow space profile . . ." with the following:

The hollow space profile 6 is continuously configured with the only exception of the interruption ~~16~~ 22 at the front end 17 of the hoof pad 12.

4. At page 5 of the specification, please replace the paragraph beginning "Instead of a single ellipse . . ." with the following:

Instead of a single ellipse 8, 9 as shown in Figs. 6 and 7, it is also possible to use several, especially parallel ellipses 10, 11 as shown in Fig. 4. On upright arrangement of the ellipses, as shown in Fig. 7 for example, their smaller axis extends generally parallel to the hoof sole, whereas on lying or non-upright arrangement as shown in Fig. 6, the large axis of the ellipse extends generally parallel to the hoof sole.

5. At page 8, please replace the paragraph beginning "In order to improve . . ." with the following:

In order to improve function and ~~lifetime~~ lifetime as well as the elastic characteristics of the hump it comprises a tube-like hollow space profile provided with at least one oval hollow space and extended to a bridge-like connecting bar connecting the two legs of the hoof pad within the area of their ends and being provided at the front end of the hoof pad in the area of the connecting point of the two legs with an interruption, wherein the plastic material plate between the hoof pad the hoof follows the circumference of the hoof pad and is free of the hump beyond the connecting bar in the direction to the ends of the legs.